ry in Clark County, Virginia, at an altitude of 500-900 feet. The following species were observed.

Plethodon glutinosus (Green). One specimen under a log. *Spelerpes bislineatus* (Green). A few adults, many transforming larvae, and a few young larvae. *Spelerpes longicaudus* (Green). 4 adults and 3 larvae. *Spelerpes ruber* (Daudin). 2 one-year-old larvae. *Desmognathus fusca* (Rafinesque). *Bufo americanus* Holbrook. *Hyla versicolor* LeConte. None were seen but they could be heard each night in the trees. *Acris gryllus crepitans* (Baird). *Rana catesbeiana* Shaw. *Rana clamata* Daudin. *Rana palustris* LeConte. *Sceloporus undulatus* (Latreille). Not common, only one seen. *Thamnophis sauritus* (Linnaeus). 1. *Natrix septemvittata* (Say). 1. *Natrix sipedon* (Linnaeus). 6. *Lampropeltis triangulus* (Boie). 1, about a yard long. The blotches were dark red and reached the second scale row. *Diadophis punctatus* (Linnaeus). 2. *Virginia valeriae* Baird and Girard. 1. *Bascanion constrictor* (Linnaeus). 3. *Elaphe obsoletus* (Say). 2. *Ancistrodon contortrix* (Linnaeus). 6. They hid all day in the rock slides on the mountains and came out at night. Specimens were caught passing through the camp after dusk. *Crotalus horridus* Linnaeus. 1, caught swimming the river. *Chelydra serpentina* (Linnaeus). *Pseudemys rubriventris* (LeConte)? A large river terrapin which was not caught is referred to this species. *Terrapene carolina* (Linnaeus).

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CHLORETONE, A KILLING AGENT

For some time I have been using chloretone as a killing agent for batrachians and reptiles, and it seems to be in a measure superior to either chloroform or ether. In use the animal is simply dropped into a 1% solution, and no more uneasiness appears than when the same individual is immersed in pure

water. Aquatic forms behave in a natural way, and terrestrial animals do no more than struggle to get out. All die without contorted muscles or an abnormal amount of glandular excretions. Toads, frogs and salamanders usually succumb in 5 or 10 minutes, but reptiles survive longer, occasionally a half hour or more after submersion. Chloretone is especially useful in killing such snakes, *Charina* for example, as are apt to die under chloroform with the muscles in a state of extreme contraction, the body then presenting a knotted and crooked appearance. A solution will keep for years in a closed vessel, requiring only the occasional addition of a few crystals of the drug, and filtering to remove accumulated matter.

Chloretone is not recommended as being equal to alcohol in killing fishes for the reason that the latter acts quickly and serves at the same time as a fixing agent of the tissue of the scale pockets.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS